

Remarks/Arguments:

The title of the invention was objected to for not being descriptive. The title has been amended to be more descriptive.

The disclosure was objected to for informalities. These informalities have been corrected.

Claims 1-4 are pending in the above-identified application.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 7,016,268 to Yoshida et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Yoshida et al. was filed on May 20, 2003. The present application has a priority date from Japanese priority document 2002-362533, filed on December 13, 2002. A Verified Translation for Japanese Application No. 2002-362533 is enclosed herewith. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 6,570,837 to Kikuchi et al. Claim 1 is amended to include,

...parameter storage means for storing therein **a plurality of parameters** contained in said reproduction information from said signal processing means, **said parameters including the bit-rate and a number of addresses** from the plurality of addresses processed by the signal processing means...

... reproduction time computing means for computing a reproduction time based on said plurality of parameters stored in said parameter storage means, **wherein the reproduction time is a point in time.** (Emphasis added).

Basis for these amendments may be found in the specification at page 8, lines 11-14 and page 8, lines 15-18. With regard to claim 1, Kikuchi et al. does not disclose or suggest storing a number of addresses processed or the processing bit-rate for calculating the reproduction time. Further, Kikuchi et al. does not disclose or suggest calculating a point in time.

Kikuchi et al. stores a cell ID and a program chain (PGC) from the disc as a parameter. (Col. 18, lines 34-38). Kikuchi et al. then calculates a playback remaining time, which is **an interval of time** corresponding to the amount of time remaining in a cell. (Col. 19, lines 1-8). The playback remaining time is calculated by subtracting an elapsed time in a cell from the total time in the cell. (Col. 19, lines 28-34). Kikuchi et al. does not disclose calculating **a point in time**. In contrast, the exemplary embodiment of Applicants' invention calculates a reproduction time, which is **a point in time** when the power supply is turned off. (Page 8, lines 11-14).

As described above, Kikuchi et al. calculates the playback remaining time by subtracting an elapsed time in a cell from the total time in the cell. (Col. 19, lines 28-34). Kikuchi et al. does not disclose storing a number of addresses processed or the processing bit-rate for any calculation of time. In contrast, the exemplary embodiment of Applicants' invention calculates a reproduction point in time from the **number of addresses processed and the processing bit-rate** (plurality of parameters). (Page 8, lines 15-18).

Thus, Kikuchi et al. does not disclose or suggest the features of claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Claim 2 depends from claim 1. Accordingly, claim 2 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of Kikuchi et al.

Claims 1 and 3-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 4,527,265 to d'Alayer de Costemore d'Arc (d'Arc) and U.S. patent no. 4,916,685 to Endoh et al. Applicants' request reconsideration of this rejection. d'Arc and Endoh et al. also do not disclose,

...parameter storage means for storing therein **a plurality of parameters** contained in said reproduction information from said signal processing means, **said parameters including the bit-rate and a number of addresses** from the plurality of addresses processed by the signal processing means...

... reproduction time computing means for computing a reproduction time based on said plurality of parameters stored in said parameter

storage means, **wherein the reproduction time is a point in time.**
(Emphasis added).

The Examiner asserts that d'Arc stores time coding as parameter. (Office Action, page 6, lines 2-4). In d'Arc, a position on the disc is obtained by reading the time coding, which represents the time (in minutes and seconds) from the beginning of the disc (**interval of time**). (Col. 3, lines 56-68). Thus, d'Arc does not disclose calculating **a point in time**, as recited in Applicants' claim 1. As described above, Applicants' invention, calculates a reproduction time, which is a **point in time** when the power supply is turned off. (Page 8, lines 11-14). Further, d'Alayer does not disclose storing a number of addresses processed or the processing bit-rate for calculating the reproduction time.

At page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner recites that Endoh et al. "...discloses a reproduction time computing means (Fig. 9 element 38) for computing a reproduction time ("remaining time" of col. 1, line 67) based on a parameter, which is a time code in minutes and seconds from the beginning of the optical disc (Col 1, lines 20-25 and 51-68). Thus, Endoh et al. calculates an **interval of time**. Endoh et al. does not disclose calculating **a point in time**, as recited in Applicants' claim 1. Further, does not disclose storing a number of addresses processed or the processing bit-rate for calculating the reproduction time.

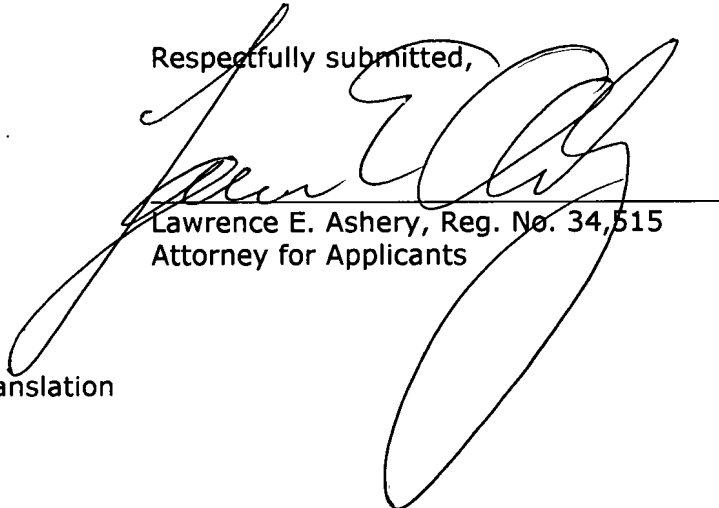
Thus, d'Arc and Endoh et al. do not disclose or suggest the features of claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4 are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of d'Arc and Endoh et al.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this Application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Verification of A Translation

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